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SUMMARY OF

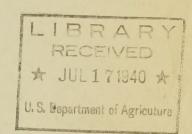
REGIONAL EXTENSION CONFERENCE

EAST CENTRAL STATES

ILLINOIS, INDIANA, MICHIGAN, OHIO, AND

WISCONSIN

Maxinkuckee Inn, Culver, Indiana May 2-4, 1940



Theme: MEETING EXTENSION OPPORTUNITIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Personnel:

Extension Directors
Assistant Directors

State Leaders of Agricultural Agents, Home Demonstration Agents, and Specialists

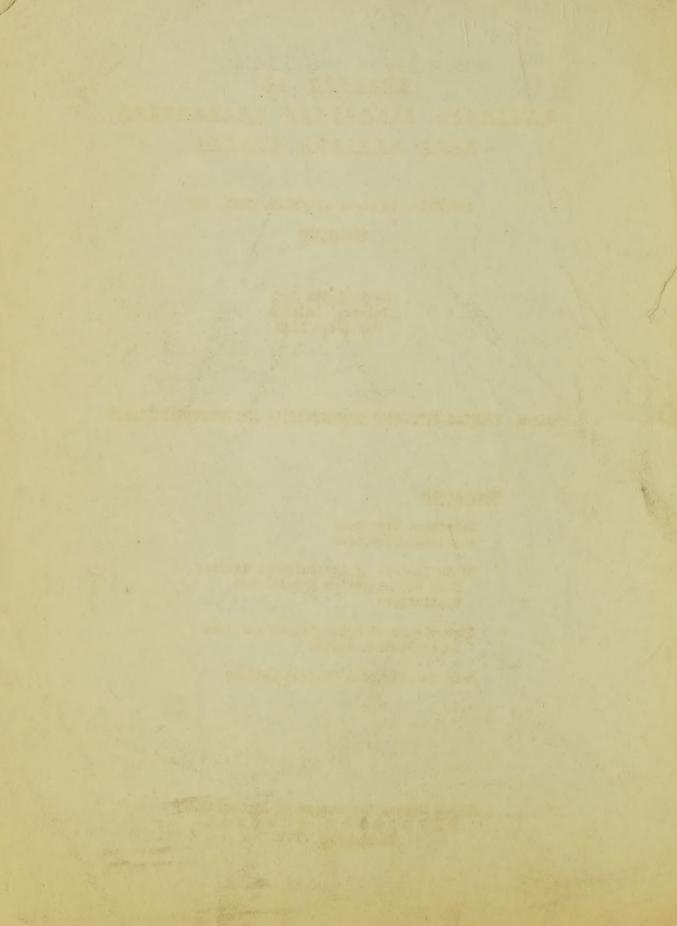
Supervisors of Agricultural and Home Demonstration Agents

Land Use Planning Project Leaders

United States Department of Agriculture

EXTENSION SERVICE

Washington, D. C.



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United States Department of Agriculture EXTENSION SERVICE Washington, D. C.

SUMMARY OF REGIONAL EXTENSION CONFERENCE

, EAST CENTRAL STATES

TOPIC: PUTTING PLANS INTO OPERATION

W. W. Clark, Presiding

Summary by: Josephine Pollock J. B. Andrews

In welcoming the group to Culver, Dean H. J. Reed of Indiana pointed out the need for clear thinking. This is especially important right now as we think through extension opportunities and responsibilities, particularly from the State's point of view. "Present-day action programs," said Dean Reed, "would not have reached first base if it had not been for 25 years of Extension Service preceding them." Programs are becoming better integrated. Careful guidance is necessary, however, in order that what is done may be done for the good of agriculture. The integrity and the programs of the land grant colleges must be maintained if the other programs are to continue.

Miss Minnie Price of Ohio and Mr. J. D. Bilsborrow of Illinois opened discussion of the topic, After Extension Programs are Planned, What? Miss Price suggested that widespread consciousness of problems may be brought about by:

- 1. Dealing not only with rural issues but also with those of both rural and urban interest.
- 2. Developing people themselves, so that they are better able to recognize their own problems and to deal with them.
- 3. Having administrative policies which will develop each staff member to the full extent of his or her capacity.

The first step in laying the ground work for getting good results is to have a well-planned program. Farm people themselves have the ability to make fine contributions. Without long, drawn-out techniques and procedures, they put their fingers on problems quickly. Our job is to assist them to find ways to deal with their problems.

Supervisors can help specialists and county staffs to accomplish a good job. Dictating to or leaving them entirely alone are equally bad. The supervisor must steer a middle course.

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There is need to develop a better program of training people to work out their own problems. No two counties can be treated alike. County programs are all different, even though homes have many similar problems. We cannot ignore the State staff, the county agents, or lay committees. Each group has a contribution to make, and this affects the amount of responsibility they may take at any given time.

All workers in the extension field need to be kept abreast of new developments in principles and methods of adult education. Opportunities should be made for leave for professional study. Solution of problems is often delayed by lack of trained personnel. Besides an educated staff, we also need a constant flow of good research. We need to remember that the effectiveness of extension people as teachers is the biggest factor in the adoption of solutions to problems.

Mr. Bilsborrow opened his remarks by discussing the results of a series of meetings with the board of directors of several county farm bureaus over the State of Illinois. At these meetings he discussed with them:

- 1. A brief review of the memorandum of agreement between the county farm bureau and the University of Illinois.
- 2. Problems concerned with the development of extension programs.
- 3. The relationship which exists among the problems of farm people, extension projects and activities, and the measures of the effectiveness of these activities.

Mr. Bilsborrow showed this relationship by illustrating from well-known farm problems, extension activities, and results obtained. Sometimes the dollar sign may be used as a measuring stick; often it cannot, and important results must be measured by other means; for example, leadership, better citizens, self-confidence, more interest in agriculture, character development, improved methods, better tenants, and many others must be used to measure the effectiveness of many 4-H Club activities. Mr. Bilsborrow reported that many Illinois Farm Bureau officials felt that while the Farm Bureau promotes many commercial activities through its subsidiaries, yet the functions of the membership organization are primarily educational. Discussion developed the following ideas:

- 1. There is need for an occasional conference between the agricultural college and county cooperating bodies to clarify understanding of relationships. District agents or the director should participate in such conferences.
- 2. In Illinois these conferences developed a more aggressive attitude in the promotion of extension projects by the farm bureau boards. The farm bureau board consists

Constant of the periodical and astronoment of the stands o The second of th Providence of the second state of the second entirely of men as there is a home bureau for women, but they have shown as much interest in the home and better living projects as in the better farming projects.

- 3. The individual farm must be considered in planning. People and land are two resources, and the education of people is basic to programs for the land.
- 4. Consciousness of individual problems leads to consideration of county and State problems. Program planning connects the links and welds them into a chain. The links must be connected in the early stages of planning as it is very difficult afterwards.
- 5. The farmer is the one to carry out the plans. A major problem of those making State, county, and community plans is to get them accepted by the owners and operators of land.

Ten-minute presentations were given by the following individuals on the topic, How We Correlate Extension Activities:

F. E. Longmire, Illinois. Mary Louise Chase, Illinois.

L. E. Hoffman, Indiana.

C. V. Ballard, Michigan.

Nellie Watts, Ohio.

O. C. Croy, Ohio.

B. F. Rusy, Wisconsin.

It was brought out by all contributors that there was a need for greater correlation of the subject-matter specialists on specific problems. The approach should be from the standpoint of the whole farm instead of promoting "my project." Also there is a great need for closer work among specialists and agents in determining specific approaches to county problems.

Area planning, using all specialists involved at sectional extension meetings, was recommended. Each specialist should have a working knowledge of the activities of other specialists.

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TOPIC: OPPORTUNITIES OF EXTENSION WORKERS IN RELATIONSHIP WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS AND ACTIVITIES

Dean H. J. Reed, Presiding

Summary by: F. E. Longmire R. E. Decker

The discussion was opened with an address by Claude R. Wickard, Under Secretary of Agriculture. His remarks were in part as follows: "My new position has enabled me to have a broader view of agricultural problems as well as to become better acquainted with the particular problems with which extension people work. There are, in this country, approximately one million farm families whose income is not sufficient to provide:

- 1. Adequate food.
- 2. Adequate shelter.
- 3. Adequate clothing.
- 4. Adequate health facilities.

"This becomes a national problem because, owing to the lower birth rate in our cities, the latter are increasingly dependent upon the rural sections for replacements in their population.

"Many people thought that when the emergency caused by the depression was over, rural situations would improve; but in 1939, even with an upturn in industrial activity, it was estimated that there were over a million farm families with an income of scarcely \$400 apiece. It is also estimated, according to Dr. O. E. Baker, that there are about 400,000 additional workers coming from farms each year, and there are jobs in the cities for only about one-half of this number. There are sections of the Appalachian region where there are 200 people per square mile. When the mines are closed their chief source of income is gone because there is little from the land. Some industries, it is claimed, are going into this region in search of laborers because they have a better selection in the age group which they desire. Neither the problem nor its effect are confined to the Appalachian region.

"Why is this problem so greatly increased? It is because we have no new lands upon which this increase of population, or surplus of people, can move. We have lost foreign markets, and there seems little prospect for improvement. The trend will probably be to cut down on land farmed. The problem is further aggravated by the use of power machinery which makes it possible for a man to farm more land. We used to say that there was an opportunity for a farm boy to become a tenant and eventually a farm owner. It is reported in Iowa that this year there were three to four thousand potential tenants who could not find farms. Tenants are losing out due to farms being combined under one operator. This started before 1929.

"We are faced with the problem of caring for these idle people such as we have in the Appalachian regions and on our submarginal lands. To move them may be a mistake. Possibly it is better to try to find something for them to do where they now live. To show the thinking on this subject, there is one group of people who say that the poor and unemployed in the city should be moved out into the country, while others say that the farmer on the submarginal land should be moved off.

"What can we who are interested in agriculture do to help? Is it possible to find the money to keep these people employed at some enterprise where they now live? Extension can probably help more than anyone by helping these people to learn how to help themselves. An illustration of this is the cotton mattress-making project now under way in the South.

"Fifty percent of our farmers produce 89/percent of our crops. At the risk of criticism, we will need to pay more attention to the 50 percent who produce only 11 percent of our farm products."

* * * *

To the question, "Should we go back to the old methods of production which would employ more labor?" Mr. Wickard replied that, although some people advocated this, he was not one of them. "Personally, I do not think we should advocate anything which will make for inefficient production." he said.

Michigan reported that their State land use planning committee recently met and heard reports from five counties where the people had made intensive studies of their land. They had made some adjustments or recommendations in its use and had found that there were always a few more people on the land than necessary. In one county there was an area which they thought could better be used for reforestation and recreational purposes and that in doing this work, the people who now live there could be employed and paid from public funds to do the work.

The question is: "Is there a Federal agency which is making any study of the possibility of such an undertaking?" Mr. Wickard replied that he did not know of any specific study being made, but believed that such a thing was worth while.

Ohio cited the study that was being made by the people of Ross County into their problems. Among other things they asked the schools whether they were teaching subjects which the people in that community needed. Young people were stimulated to study problems affecting them. They found many family heads who were working on W.P.A. projects 15 to 20 miles away, when there was the same work to be done at home, and the expense of travel would have been eliminated.

Other cases were cited where more coordination of various agencies and some changes in administrative rulings would help people to improve

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their conditions. Extension is emphasizing the importance of producing and preserving a home food and feed supply, home repair of machinery, community recreational activities, and many other activities which will make small cash incomes go farther.

Miss Bess Edwards, assistant home demonstration leader, Texas, explained the cotton utilization program through the mattress-making project in the Southern States. This project is conducted in cooperation with the Federal Surplus Commodities Corporation which provides 50 pounds of cotton and 10 yards of ticking for a mattress for each family with an annual income of less than \$400. This project is helping families to have the comforts of better bedding, is bringing extension workers in contact with many folks with whom they have had few contacts, and will help make use of some of the surplus cotton.

Applications for mattresses are received by county home demonstration agents or county agricultural agents; the county A.C.P. committee decides upon the eligibility of the applicants. The project was usually organized by holding a State meeting followed by county meetings of representatives of all interested groups. Here local chairmen were selected who in turn picked their committees of usually 3 to 5 people. Extension leaders trained these committees. After 1 month of work on this project there are 746 counties in 14 States participating in the program. At least until June 30, 1940, this is open to any State interested. It was brought out by discussion that there are probably many rural and village homes which might be improved by having a mattress of this type.

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TOPIC: LAND USE PLANNING AND EXTENSION WORK

H. C. Ramsower, Presiding

Summary by: Helen Strow B. H. Rusy

The discussion was opened with a presentation of objectives of land use planning by P. V. Kepner. Mr. Kepner pointed out that the job is challenging, that land use planning is not new in all its aspects, and that it is difficult to state specific objectives because of many ramifications.

It is a process which assista us in recognizing needed adjustments, in showing us desired goals, and in initiating action to attain these goals. Mr. Kepner suggested a key question, What is land use planning? Then he proceeded to define it as:

- 1. A procedure which systematically and cooperatively analyzes major problems having land use implications which confront agriculture on a local, regional, and national basis.
 - a. It should determine needed adjustments and goals that should be attained.
 - b. It should help to determine the most appropriate means of attaining such goals.
 - c. It should initiate and accelerate actions toward the attainment of such goals.

Land use planning has developed because:

- 1. For approximately 25 years Extension has been working with farm people rather than working for them.
- 2. Action agencies in 1933 and since with many separate programs have created considerable confusion in the minds of many farmers which makes it necessary to give consideration to problems of program coordination.
- 3. Action programs made it necessary for the United States
 Department of Agriculture to have administrative machinery
 set up in the various regions, States, and counties. These
 present a new set of problems referred to as "Problems of
 Federal -- State relations."
- 4. A need was recognized for incorporating farmers knowledge in an objective manner into program development and adjustment

- procedure. Agencies proceeded in this work independently. The results thus fell short of accomplishing the unity of purpose and procedure desired.
- 5. Farmers, farm leaders, the colleges, and the United States
 Department of Agriculture were searching for a common problem which might serve as a basis for a plan for coordination
 and teamwork. The use of the land seemed to be the "least
 common denominator" basic to all the agricultural programs.

Objectives of land use planning are usually colored by three factors:

- 1. The agency affiliation of the individual making the statement.
- 2. The scope of the work the objectives try to cover.
- 3. The particular individual's conception of what it is. Individual conceptions of the objectives of land use planning range from
 - a. To obtain a high standard of living through proper use of land, a conception which is too broad, to -
 - b. The individual who feels that the job is to get a farmer to make maps and to indicate a few objectives.

The objectives of land use planning as presented by Mr. Kepner are:

- 1. The cooperative development of a systematic and thorough analysis of major problems facing agriculture with specific reference to land-use implications.
- 2. Cooperative development of ways and means of meeting problems.
- 3. Factual basis for redirecting programs.
- 4. The acceleration of a sympathetical attempt by all involved.
- 5. Education for all concerned farmers, leaders, and technicians.

These objections cannot be reached over night. Three limitations of land use planning are:

- 1. It cannot keep ahead of action agencies operations.
- 2. There is confusion about objectives.
- 3. There is a lack of information throwing light on problems.

In discussion, it was developed that it was not within the province of land use planning committees to plan procedures for various agencies, but that the desired actions should be stimulated through participation of action-agency personnel in the planning process. Each agency should do its own operative planning.

The discussion was continued by a panel.

Chairman: J. C. Spitler, Illinois

Panel members:

L. E. Hoffman, Indiana Nellie Watts, Ohio Lella Gaddis, Indiana H. A. Berg, Michigan George Eastwood, Ohio W. A. Rowlands, Wisconsin

The following questions were discussed by the panel.

- 1. If land use planning is to attain its objectives, how can Extension assist most effectively?
- 2. What contribution does land use planning offer to extension work in the home program?
- 3. Is the present terminology "land use planning" sufficiently challenging to engage the interest of homemakers?
- 4. How is land use planning to be carried on in an area of great uniformity?
- 5. From the standpoint of educational objectives, are the present procedures in land use most effective?

Viewpoints expressed were:

- 1. Land use planning is an extension activity of first importance. It develops the extension staff and acquaints the agents with the problems of their counties.
- 2. Land use planning is primarily educational; therefore, Extension has a definite responsibility to carry it out with farm people. Factual information helps to locate problems.
- 3. Agents and people gain much information through Land Use Planning procedures. This fortifies county extension agents in discussing problems of taxation, consolidation of governmental units, roads, etc. These questions might cause agents embarrassment if not supported by official land use committees.

- 4. Women have more enthusiasm and make the greatest contribution when they are in on the planning from the start. Mapping may be best done by men. Women are more interested in farm income as it affects the home.
- 5. Extension should be a coordinating influence. Land use planning is helping Extension to work out its relationships with action agencies now in the field.
- 6. In areas of great uniformity, less interest in land use planning is being shown by individuals.
- 7. Land use planning has made contributions to Extension.

 Women do have a place in the procedure. It is a protection to Extension. Procedures should be such as to bring out the problems as they exist. Probably the terminology is not as challenging to the homemaker as it might be.

It was pointed out that the Bureau of Agricultural Economics has never raised the question as to whether women should or should not be included on planning committees. The general sentiment is that both men and women must work on it together and not separately.

M. J. Huxley, county agricultural agent in Fulton County, Ind., reported that land use planning procedure has not as yet changed his county extension programs materially. This may be because of the great number of persons who are on both the extension program and the land use planning committees. Hay and pasture programs and erosion control programs were determined through land use planning procedure. The first educational efforts were through demonstrations. Land use planning reports were sent to two-thirds of the farmers in the county. Action agencies are now being brought together. While personnel of the land use planning and agricultural committees are almost identical, there is no connection between the two groups. Land use planning committees do not make recommendations to extension committees. Land use planning has proved to be a good device for increasing the number who adopt recommended practices.

Home Demonstration Section

TOPIC: THE PLACE OF HOME ECONOMICS EXTENSION AND FARM WOMEN IN THE LAND USE PROGRAM

Blanche L. Lee, Presiding

Summary by: Blanche L. Lee
Mary Louise Chase

The group represented by this report includes all women members of the conference and the following:

H. J. Reed, Dean and Director, Indiana

R. J. Baldwin, Director, Michigan

E. A. Jorgensen, Agricultural Agent Supervisor, Wisconsin Guy Dowdy, Land Use Planning Project Leader, Ohio

It was the opinion of the group that the interpretation of objectives of land use planning was the determining factor as to whether or not home demonstration workers and farm women have a definite and important place in land use planning at this time.

It is recognized that, if Work Outline No. I were literally followed, home economics extension and farm women and possibly the Extension Service in general would not have a definite place in land use planning. However, if we now accept the broader concept of land use planning as it has been consistently outlined at this conference, as that of land use being associated with people and specifically with the farm family—and if we believe that land use planning has social as well as economic implications—and if we believe as the men and women at this discussion session did, that information about the land and its use is basic to planning in home economics as well as in agriculture, we believe that home economics extension workers and farm women do have a vital place in land use planning.

If women are to have a place in land use planning, we believe that to be most effective, they need to be in it from the beginning when the plans and the underlying philosophy are being developed. It is to be recognized that women participate more freely in group discussions with men if two or more women are members of such groups.

It was recognized that the majority of women may not have the contribution which most men have, to make to land classification and to land mapping. But they do have a contribution to make in determining what data are needed and in planning, assembling, and analyzing them. They have a major contribution to make regarding land use planning as it affects the home and the farm family living.

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Agricultural Section

SUBJECT: SUPERVISORS! RELATION TO LAND USE PLANNING

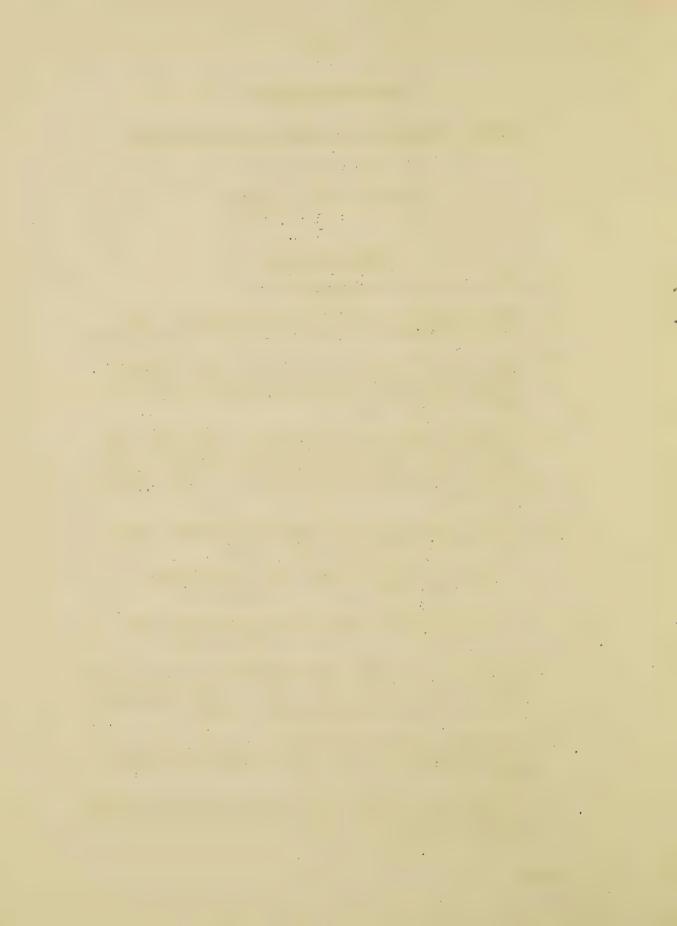
C. V. Ballard, Presiding

Summary by: Ray B. Pallett L. M. Busche

General Statements

It was emphasized and reemphasized that:

- 1. Land use planning is a real teaching progress. It obtained the opinions of people right out on the side roads.
- 2. The county agent should be the one to take the responsibility in the entire procedure including the report; not someone temporarily assigned to the county. The county agent has to live there.
- 3. On recommendations of land use planning committees, many emphasize family garden, family poultry flocks, etc., for better living. Women really are needed in this program. Possibly too much of our extension work is with commercial farm interests.
- 4. Land use planning is in one sense just another project, but in another sense it is much broader:
 - "It is a device to secure grass roots thinking on local, State, and national problems."
 - "It is another medium to really get farmer opinion right up to officials in Washington."
- 5. It was brought out that we need <u>research</u> on phases of land use. We need research on what is an economical farm unit. What farm pattern is the most economical unit? What type of farm unit has greatest chances of success?
- 6. Real farmer opinion, not necessarily a uniform product in recommendations, is desired. Local people and resident agents must run the show.
- 7. Arguments were presented for State-wide land use assistants and for county assistant agents. States prefer the method they are now using.



Both men and women supervisors have a responsibility:

- Supervisors need to warn agents of hard work in project, what has to be done, time required to do it, and results to be expected.
- 2. Supervisors should recommend the agents interested, and counties ready for project to the State land use planning committee.
- 3. They should recommend the person to be appointed when an assistant agent is to be put in a county. They will select personalities that get along together.
- 4. The supervisor should follow through and see that agents stay on the job and make progress with the land use planning, both for his own welfare and for the welfare of the project.
- 5. Supervisors need to assist county people in making practical use of land use recommendations.
- 6. Supervisors need to realize that the land use report is background information for extension program planning, and see that recommendations are worked into the county extension programs.
- 7. Assist agents in working specialists into solution of problems brought out by land use report. Many times this concerns groups of specialists in related fields.
- 8. Help agents translate land use thinking into county action.

Address: OFFORTUNITY KNOCKS AT OUR DOOR - Reuben Brigham, Assistant Director of Extension Work

W. W. Clark, Presiding

Mr. Brigham spoke to the group at the dinner meeting on Friday evening, May 3. He particularly emphasized our objectives as:

- 1. Improve the outlook of farming as a business.
- 2. Make farm life more satisfying.
- 5. Equip farm youth to deal with the problems of their naturity.
- 4. Bring about public understanding and appreciation of vital relations that exist between a sound agriculture and a sound national economy.

Some of his other comments were:

It is time to strike a note of optimism. We need to have it now to get very far.

It is our job to take a difficulty and see an opportunity in it.

We now see emerging a new economic and social outlook. A thing is of value only as it contributes to human welfare.

The two forces of greatest significance to western civilization are science and democracy. Science has outstepped democracy. We now see that scientific forces must be constructive and not destructive to serve human welfare.

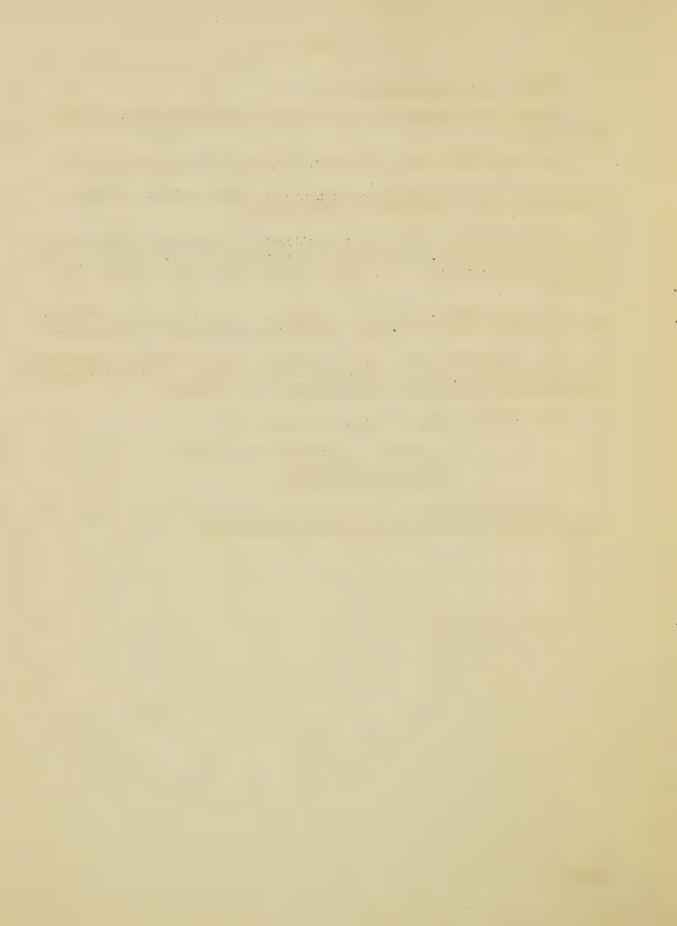
We believe that the solution of many of our problems is in education. Sound procedure would be research, education, and action - in this order.

The Smith-Lever Act was authorization for one of the most progressive forms of education. Because of the many liberties and so few limitations in the Smith-Lever Law, we have fine opportunity for service.

We look upon the county extension agent as:

- 1. Technical adviser of farm people.
- 2. Trusted counselor.
- 3. Sympathetic friend.

The problem before us is what the problem always was - to assist the people to think themselves out of their difficulties.



TOPIC: "THE EXTENSION SERVICE AND NATIONAL FARM PROGRAMS"

J. C. Spitler, Presiding

Summary by: G. B. Crane

Elsie E. Glasgow Frank Demaree

Director H. C. Ramsower opened the discussion. To emphasize his points Director Ramsower used the following diagram on the blackboard:

| Federal | A.C.P. | F.S.A. | s.c.s. | R.E.A. | F.C.A. | Extension Service | Vocational Agriculture |
|----------|--------|--------|--------|--|--|-------------------|---------------------------|
| Regional | * | | | and all the per distinguishment device de-sel and a self-self-self-self-self-self-self-self- | And share and all registration are represented by the share of the sha | | |
| State | | | | A collective of the collective | | | |
| County | | | | | | | |
| Farmer | | | | | | | |

^{*} Regional headquarters in Washington.



As indicated, most of the National Farm Program agencies have regional, State, and county offices, before they reach the farmer. If we draw a line across above the horizontal squares labeled the "farmer" and a line vertically between Extension Service and Vocational Agriculture on the one hand and the agencies listed on the other, it serves to emphasize several points as follows:

All these services would be useless unless they reached the farmer.

The Extension $S_{\rm ervice}$ organization is somewhat different from the others in that it grew from the ground up, starting in counties, then developing to $S_{\rm tate}$ and $F_{\rm ed}$ each status.

The Extension program differs from Federal program listed in that is has local organization and local direction.

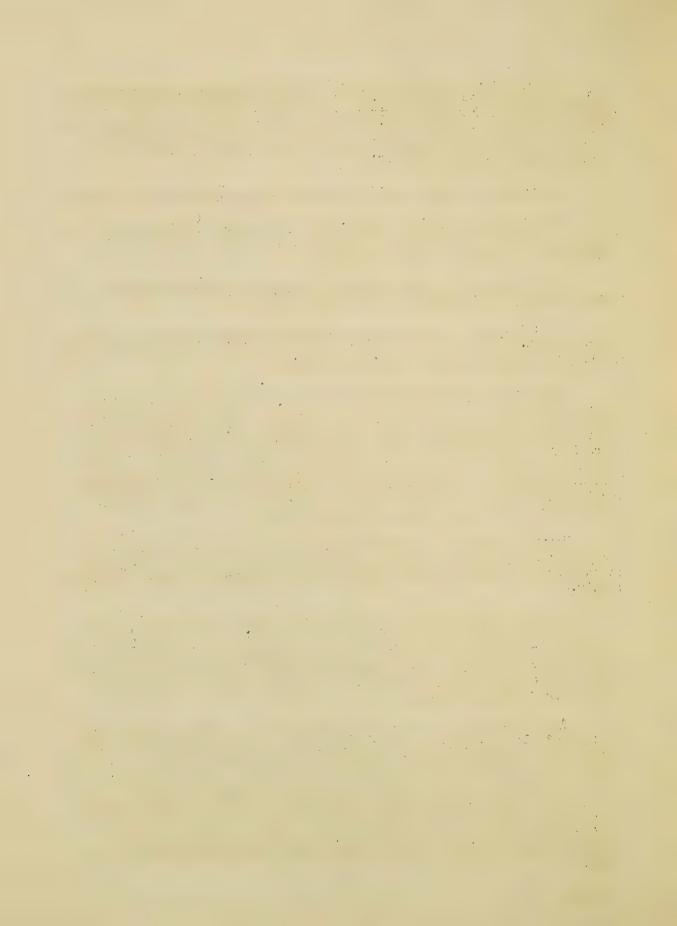
It is possible to conceive that each of these agencies may serve the same farm. If so, the pressure may be too great, especially as some of this pressure may come down from the top.

When you build from the top down, you get pressure to get a job done, regardless of the desires of the farmer. Each organization goes to the farmer thinking only of its own division; it is no wonder that the farmer gets confused. With all this help the farmer wonders why there isn't more improvement in economic and social conditions. With all these agencies working for the farmer, nobody yet has gone out to help him select the service that really fills his need. The Extension Service has come more nearly than any other agency to doing this but still needs to go much farther along this line.

We must think in a unified manner, must not leave the farmer in the position of putting all these things together. We must assist him to do this by attacking more problems from the point of view of the farm family.

County agents are in a better position than anyone else to take the lead in unification of programs in the county. Land use planning is a device for unifying programs. The county agent has the authority to bring various agencies in the county together. In the State, the Extension Director has this authority and should look upon this as an opportunity for valuable service.

The question is, Can the Extension Service assume the role of coordinator? In contrast to some of the large agencies of Federal origin, which have a program to sell, the policy of Extension education is to go out and find what the farm family needs and wants. We sometimes get into trouble by this method because we do not get immediate action. We do get action but not hasty action. This means that our Extension program is a little slow. However, sound progress is made only when the farm family gets the things it wants to make it grow. We must not depart from the plan of going out to the farm people and finding out what they want.



We must keep in mind that the people of the State look to their State university with confidence as a source of unbiased information. This is a valuable asset to a sound educational program.

To be a good coordinator, the county extension agent must be a great man or a great woman. The next 25 years will call for people of highest capacity. That is why it is important to give agents leave of absence for study and a chance for contacts with the world. It also means we must give agents better supervision. A new responsibility is now placed upon the Extension Service.

Comments by Reuben Brigham on Director Ramsower's talk:

Mr. Brigham announced he would like to back up the statements made by Director Ramsower and emphasize three points as follows:

- 1. We must be looking ahead even 25 years.
- 2. We must recognize that our plans are now in crude and elementary stage, especially in relation to other organizations.
- 3. Land-grant colleges should have more of a voice in determining policies and in making plans for national agricultural programs.

There are many agencies working on the same problem. They must get together.

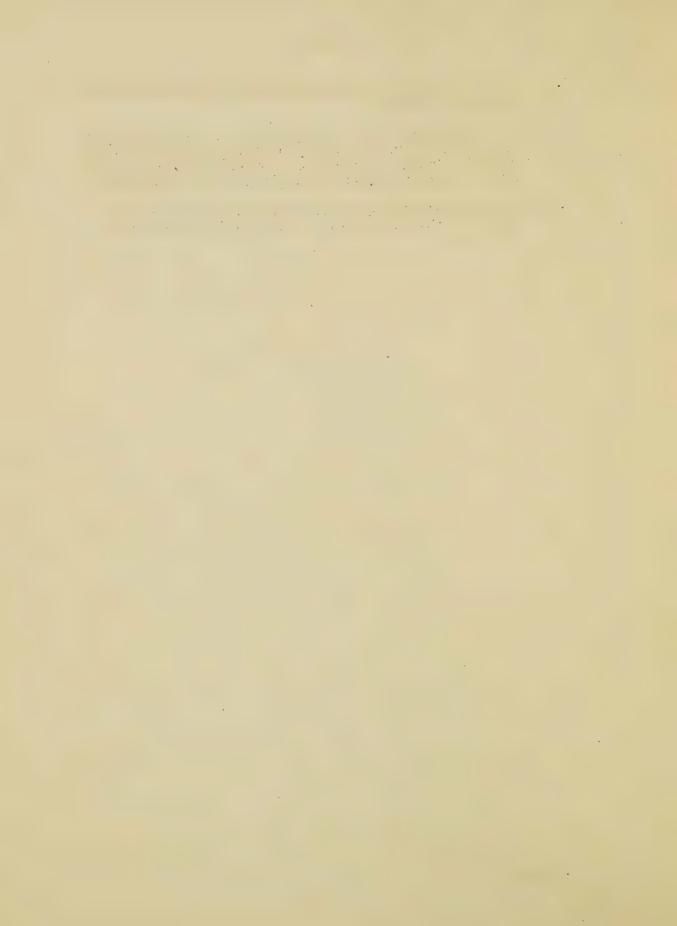
Committees of Extension Directors have been set up recently to assist the Washington officials on relationship problems.

Conferences of all the staff of colleges of agriculture, including Extension, research, and resident teaching, will help bring about better understanding of national problems and of the purposes of national farm programs.

Discussion developed the following viewpoints:

- 1. Operating agencies with a definite goal on a national basis have programs that sometimes run counter to the best judgment of the local people.
- 2. The solution of the agriculture problem does not rest entirely on agriculture.
- 3. Community planning is practical. Extension people may know how to make a plan, but should not do it themselves. The poorest kind of planning is from the national level down. The job is not in getting limestone on as much land as possible, but in getting farm owners to realize the need of limestone.

- 4. The county office is the bottle neck for both educational and action agencies.
- 5. A specialist can help a county agent not only in subjectmatter but in how to present it. Some county agents have grown in ability and are able to supervise their own projects to a great extent. Others are new and need help.
- 6. Coordination of agencies and programs can best be done where the problem occurs, that is, in the county or on the farm.



CONFERENCE SUMMARY

R. J. Baldwin

At a conference relating to the school curriculum, a course was defined as an educational experience designed to bring about desirable changes in those who participate in it. An extension conference has a similar objective and the "desirable changes" come to those who participate.

This conference has placed great emphasis upon Extension as an educational process. Education has been seen as a powerful influence running as a bright thread through all programs. All speakers have emphasized that the type of education used in Extension must lead to action in the fundamental things of living and society.

Discussion on extension program planning emphasized:

- 1. An agricultural program not divided effort or many project plans.
- 2. Problem basis rather than projects.
- 3. Programs made by farm people for farm people with Extension supplying information and counsel.

Through educational procedure of planning and subsequent action, rural people develop in their abilities to see, tackle, and solve local problems. Staff members associated with rural people in this process develop in their abilities to see and solve problems and to influence attitudes and action.

Land use planning belongs to all farm people and to all agencies assisting farm people. It is not an Extension enterprise exclusively, but it aids Extension greatly in program planning. The responsibility for leadership in land use planning has been assigned to Extension by the Secretary of Agriculture. Farm people themselves are at the helm in land use planning and will determine its limitations. Our responsibility is to supply to farm people all available facts assembled from all who have facts which apply to the land and soil, the economic situation, and the social situation.

Land is the "least common denominator" expressing a relationship of land to people and people to land. A broad view of the objectives of land use planning has been developed in the conference. They should include both economic and social factors.

Emphasis has been placed on the plight of 1,000,000 farm families without the common necessities of life, - clothing, food, and shelter - and without health services. It is one of the responsibilities of planning forces to determine who they are, why they are in such condition,

and what can be done about their situation. Emphasis was also placed on the resources of help close at home and possible solutions of problems through self-help. It is important that all agencies be in position to do the right things for such families in the place where they are. No one agency can do the job alone. People cannot do it alone. Coordination of forces and division of labor to solve common problems through planning is the solution.

The broad objectives stated made clear the need for earlier coordination of effort among home programs and land use planning. The home agents and supervisors have a place in the program to supply facts on social and economic aspects of local situations. It is important that the home-economics staff understand the philosophy of planning from the beginning.

Henry Thoreau, the author of "Walden Pond" said, "I came here to find myself. It is so easy to get lost in the world." We, too, have come to this conference to find ourselves. It is so easy for extension workers working under pressure of circumstances on one phase of work to lose their contacts and understandings of the movement as a whole. Has our conference been an educational experience? Has it produced desirable changes? What should we look for in ourselves?

This implies:

- 1. Understanding of the objectives of all programs affecting farm people and of extension relationships with the agencies concerned with each program.
- 2. Sufficient knowledge of the provisions of each program so that it may be discussed intelligently with farm people and so that we may refer them to the proper source of further information and assistance concerning their problems.
- 3. Appreciation of opportunites to further serve farm people.
- 4. Sympathetic point of view towards all programs.
- 5. Clearer vision to see what is not yet here. A better day for the farm family.

The Extension Vision of a Farm Family

- 1. A father who must make the farm pay provide for the home provide for the development of the family security for the future.
- 2. A mother who must make the home a place of comfort, a place of inspiration and satisfaction.

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- 3. Young people approaching the future, interested in life, and with the ability to meet the problems of their maturity.
- 4. Children with gaiety, laughter, and freshness of spirit.

This is the unit for which we are all working. "Where there is no vision the people perish."

PERSONS ATTENDING

Illinois

J. C. Spitler
Mary Louise Chase
F. E. Longmire
J. D. Bilsborrow
J. B. Andrews

Indiana

H. J. Reed
T. A. Coleman
Lella R. Gaddis
Elsie E. Glasgow
L. E. Hoffman
L. M. Busche
H. S. Heckard
O. W. Mansfield
J. C. Bottum
Frank Demaree
J. B. Kohlmeyer
M. J. Huxley

Michigan

R. J. Baldwin
Edna V. Smith
Helen Strow
C. V. Ballard
R. E. Decker
H. A. Berg

Ohio

H. C. Ramsower
G. B. Crane
Minnie Price
Nellie Watts
George Eastwood
W. W. Brownfield
O. C. Croy
Guy Dowdy

Wisconsin

W. W. Clark
Blanche L. Lee
Josephine Pollock
Walter Rowlands
B. F. Rusy
Ray B. Pallett
Arlie Mucks
E. A. Jorgensen

Federal Extension Office

Claude R. Wickard Reuben Brigham Grace E. Frysinger P. V. Kepner Karl Knaus

Special Guests

Col. W. E. Gregory (Culver) Bess Edwards (Texas)

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